CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1.   A method for creating a user-interface independently of an application with which the

2 user interface interacts, the application including a plurality of components and at least one

3 component containing a property, each property being identified with an identifier, the method

4 comprising:

5   inserting at least one element into the user-interface; and

6   associating at least one property path with one inserted element, the property path

7 including a concatenation of a plurality of identifiers, the concatenation of identifiers defining a

8 path through the components of the application to a property at the end of the concatenation.

1 2.   The method of claim 1 further comprising:

2   determining a list of property paths associated with the application; and

3   selecting the property path from the list to associate with the one inserted element of the

4 user-interface from the list of property paths.

1 3.   The method of claim 2 wherein the step of determining further comprises receiving a

2 property path description file associated with the application, the property path description file

3 including a plurality of identifiers associated with the application and a relationship between the

4 plurality of identifiers.

1 4.   The method of claim 2 wherein the step of determining further comprises

2   executing the application; and

3   interacting with the executing application to determine a plurality of identifiers

4   associated with the application and a relationship between the plurality of identifiers.

1   5.   The method of claim 1 further comprising transmitting a request to register for a property

2   change message corresponding to the property path associated with the element of the user-

3   interface.

1   6.   The method of claim 1 wherein the step of inserting comprises:

2   providing at least one predefined element; and

3   enabling selection from the at least one predefined element to insert the selected

4   predefined element into the user-interface.

1   7.   The method of claim 6 wherein the predefined element comprises one of an image type

2   user-interface element, an iterator type user-interface element, a text type user-interface element,

3   a hidden type user-interface element, a value type user-interface element, a slider type user-

4   interface element, a treeview type user-interface element, a button type user-interface element, an

5   iframe type user-interface element, a tab type user-interface element, a flipflop type user-interface

6   element, a deck type user-interface element, a dropdown type user-interface element, a radio type

7   user-interface element, and a script type user-interface element.

1   8.   A system for creating a user-interface independently of an application with which the user

2   interface interacts, the application including a plurality of components and at least one

3   component containing a property, each property being identified with an identifier, the system

4   comprising:

5   a property connector module inserting at least one element into the user-interface, and

6   associating at least one property path with one inserted element, the property path including a

7   concatenation of a plurality of identifiers, the concatenation of identifiers defining a path through

8   the components of the application to a property at the end of the concatenation.

1   9.   The system of claim 8 wherein the property connector module is further configured to

2   determine a list of property paths associated with the application, and to select the property path

3   from the list to associate with the one inserted element of the user-interface from the list of

4   property paths.

1   10.   The system of claim 8 wherein the property connector module is further configured to

2   receive a property path description file associated with the application, the property path

3   description file including a plurality of identifiers associated with the application and a

4   relationship between the plurality of identifiers.

1   11.   The system of claim 8 wherein the property connector module is further configured to

2   execute the application, and to interact with the executing application to determine a plurality of

3   identifiers associated with the application and a relationship between the plurality of identifiers.

1   12.   The system of claim 8 wherein the property connector module is further configured to

2   transmit a request to register for a property change message corresponding to the property path

3   associated with the element of the user-interface.

1   13.   The system of claim 8 wherein the property connector module is further configured to

2   provide at least one predefined element, and to enable selection from the at least one predefined

3   element to insert the selected predefined element into the user-interface.

1   14.   The system of claim 13 wherein the predefined element comprises one of an image type

2   user-interface element, an iterator type user-interface element, a text type user-interface element,

3   a hidden type user-interface element, a value type user-interface element, a slider type user-

4   interface element, a treeview type user-interface element, a button type user-interface element, an

5   iframe type user-interface element, a tab type user-interface element, a flipflop type user-interface

6   element, a deck type user-interface element, a dropdown type user-interface element, a radio type

7   user-interface element, and a script type user-interface element.

1   15.   The system of claim 8 further comprising:

2   a client node including:

3   the user interface having one or more elements; and

4   a client portion of the property connector module.

1   16.   The system of claim 8 further comprising:

2   a server node including:

3   the application; and

4   a server portion of the property connector module.